

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the finality of the last office action is respectfully requested.

The office action is a first action final rejection of claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8-10, 12, and 14-16, the features of those claims remaining unchanged from the original filing. Original claims 2 and 3 depended from claim 1 all of which were method claims and claims 5, 6, 8-10, 12, and 14-16 depended directly or indirectly from claim 1 and those were all fuel system claims. The Examiner did not raise these dependency issues prior to the final office action (i.s. in the first office action mailed September 29, 2003, and therefore the first action final rejection of these claims is in error.

Therefore, withdrawal of the finality of the last office action, entry of the amendments and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the indicated allowability of all the claims over the art of record.

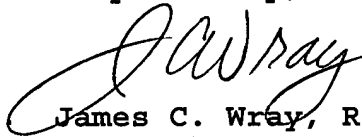
The amendments proposed above replace claims 2-3 and 5-16 with claims 17-37 which are similar in scope to the cancelled claims and address the 35 U.S.C. 112 issues on page 2 of the office action. Claims 34, 35, and 36 track allowed (now cancelled) claims 7, 11, and 13 and change the claim language to conform to method claims. No new matter has been added. Entry and allowance are requested.

The Examiner's suggested new claim 13 has been added as claim 37. Claim 17 tracks the language of Examiner's claim 13, but to address the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph issues for the dependent claims, claims 17-33 define a fuel system, while claims 34-37 define the method for operating the fuel system.

Claims 17-37 are patentable because all those claims define novel, unique and non-obvious features that have been indicated to be allowable by the Examiner.

Since this Response places all the claims in condition for allowance, and since Applicant has presented a novel, unique and non-obvious invention, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully,



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